

**§ 59d. Transportation of official records and papers to House Member's district**

**(a) Payment of reasonable expenses from applicable accounts of House; rules and regulations**

Effective August 16, 1978, notwithstanding any provision of law and until otherwise provided by law, the applicable accounts of the House shall be available to pay the reasonable expenses of sending or transporting the official records and papers of any Member of the House of Representatives from the District of Columbia to any location designated by such Member in the district represented by the Member.

The Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives is authorized and directed to provide for the most economical means of sending or transporting such documents to insure the orderly and timely delivery to the specified location. The Committee on House Oversight shall have the authority to issue rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this section.

**(b) "Member of the House of Representatives" and "official records and papers" defined**

As used in this section—

(1) the term "Member of the House of Representatives" means a Representative in, or a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress; and

(2) the term "official records and papers" means books, records, papers, and official files which could be sent as franked mail.

(Pub. L. 98-51, title I, § 111(1), July 14, 1983, 97 Stat. 269; Pub. L. 104-186, title II, § 203(21), Aug. 20, 1996, 110 Stat. 1728.)

**CODIFICATION**

In subsec. (a), "August 16, 1978" substituted for "upon the date of adoption of this resolution" meaning the date of adoption of House Resolution No. 1297, which was agreed to Aug. 16, 1978.

Section is based on House Resolution No. 1297, Ninety-fifth Congress, Aug. 16, 1978, which was enacted into permanent law by Pub. L. 98-51.

Sections 1 and 2 of House Resolution No. 1297 were redesignated subsecs. (a) and (b) of this section, respectively, for purposes of codification.

**AMENDMENTS**

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-186, § 203(21)(A)–(C), substituted "applicable accounts" for "contingent fund" in first par. and "Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives" for "Clerk of the House of Representatives" and "House Oversight" for "House Administration" in second par.

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 104-186, § 203(21)(D), amended par. (1) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (1) read as follows: "the term 'Member' means a Representative, a Resident Commissioner in the House, and a Delegate to the House; and".

**CHANGE OF NAME**

Committee on House Oversight of House of Representatives changed to Committee on House Administration of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Sixth Congress, Jan. 6, 1999.

**§ 59e. Official mail of persons entitled to use congressional frank**

**(a) Congressional committee regulations for expenditure of appropriations for official mail**

Except as otherwise provided in this section, funds appropriated by this Act or any other Act

for expenses of official mail of any person entitled to use the congressional frank may be expended only in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate or the Committee on House Oversight of the House of Representatives, as applicable. Such regulations shall require—

(1) individual accountability for use of official mail by each person entitled to use the congressional frank;

(2)(A) with respect to the House of Representatives, allocation of funds for official mail to be made to each such person with respect to each session of Congress (with no transfer to any other session or to any other such person); and

(B) with respect to the Senate, allocation of funds for official mail to be made to each such person with respect to each session of Congress (with no transfer to any other session, other than transfers from the first session of a Congress to the second session of that Congress, or to any other such person); and

(3) with respect to the House of Representatives, that in addition to any other report or information made available to the public (through the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards or otherwise) regarding the use of the frank, the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives shall include in the quarterly report of receipts and expenditures submitted to the House of Representatives a statement (based solely on data provided for that purpose by the Committee on House Oversight of the House of Representatives and the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards) of costs charged against the Official Mail Allowance for each person entitled to use the congressional frank.

**(b) Postmaster General functions**

The Postmaster General, in consultation with the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate and the Committee on House Oversight of the House of Representatives—

(1) shall monitor use of official mail by each person entitled to use the congressional frank;

(2) at least monthly, shall notify any person with an allocation under subsection (a)(2) of this section as to the percentage of the allocation that has been used; and

(3) may not carry or deliver official mail the cost of which is in excess of an allocation under subsection (a)(2) of this section.

**(c) Source of funds for expenses of official mail**

Expenses of official mail of the Senate and the House of Representatives may be paid only from funds specifically appropriated for that purpose and funds so appropriated—

(1) may be supplemented by other appropriated funds only if such supplementation is provided for by law or by regulation under subsection (a) of this section; and

(2) may not be supplemented by funds from any other source, public or private.

**(d) Maintenance or use of unofficial office accounts or defrayal of official expenses from certain funds prohibited**

No Senator or Member of the House of Representatives may maintain or use, directly or